

is an honor to be among you. And I thank you.

CALL FOR TOLERANCE FOR ETHNIC AMERICANS OF ARAB AND SOUTH ASIAN DESCENT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as the news media reported the attacks on New York City, Washington, DC and Pennsylvania, other attacks are also being reported by Americans on Americans who want immediate revenge. I am referring to incidence of hate crimes committed against Arab Americans, South Asians and other mistakenly identified individuals.

In spite of the terrorist attacks on our country, our nation's motto has not changed; it is still "Ex Pluribus Unum!" that is, "out of many one", or a nation representing people from around the world. The City of Chicago has a thriving community of Arab Americans who are not all Muslims. Regardless of religion, all law-abiding citizens of Chicago and other communities deserve full protection of the law against all acts of intolerance. The principle of justice for all shall remain unchanged.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of any resolution addressing hate crimes within our border.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH JACOBS WELSH

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Deborah Jacobs Welsh. I have never had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Welsh, but because of her courage and selflessness, I am able to stand here today on the floor of the House of Representatives and honor her memory.

Debbie, as her friends and family lovingly call her, was a flight attendant on United Airlines Flight 93, which was hijacked on that fateful morning of September 11 and then crashed into a field in western Pennsylvania.

But that's only part of the story.

Debbie and others aboard Flight 93 were aware that this hijacking was part of a bigger, coordinated terrorist attack. They knew that not only were their own lives at stake, but the lives of countless people on the ground also hung in the balance. Putting aside their own safety and well-being and overcoming paralyzing fear, several passengers and crew members banded together and vowed to take back control of the plane. Anyone who knows Debbie, knows that, without a doubt, she was part of the group that fought to the end, refusing to give in to the hijackers.

Words cannot express the rollercoaster of emotions running through me on that tragic day, especially when I learned of the heroic actions of those on Flight 93 which, according to authorities, was likely headed for the Capitol Building in Washington, DC. I cannot fathom the further devastation Flight 93 would

have wrought if not for Debbie and the others who made the ultimate sacrifice, all in the name of protecting their fellow Americans and our nation. Because of these courageous individuals, I stand here today unharmed, as do my colleagues, members of my staff, and hundreds of other people who work on Capitol Hill.

The bravery Debbie demonstrated in her final moments was not an isolated incident. Throughout her life, she always stood up for herself and for those around her, doing what she could to right any injustices she encountered. She could light up a room with her smile and her wonderful sense of humor. Debbie showed the same level of loyalty and concern to strangers as she did her family, routinely giving unused airline food to the homeless people in her neighborhood. Most of all, Debbie was a loving wife to Patrick, and a devoted daughter, sister, and aunt.

Debbie will definitely be sorely missed, but she will never be forgotten. Her actions will live on as an example for all Americans.

I know I speak for myself and my colleagues, when I say, "Thank you, Debbie. For everything."

HONORING TODD BEAMER

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, America has found a hero in Todd Beamer, one of the passengers on the hijacked Flight 93 who gave their lives to deny the vicious hijackers their deadly mission. We all mourn the loss of Todd Beamer and the others on that flight and our hearts and prayers go out to Lisa Beamer, their two fine children, and to all the other families of the people on that plane. We also hold up the memory of Mr. Beamer as one who represents what is good about America.

For two centuries observers around the world from Alexis de Toqueville to Winston Churchill, have spoken about the marvelous ability of Americans to rise to meet a challenging situation, the ability of individual Americans to step from their ordinary lives to do extraordinary things.

I attended the memorial service for Todd Beamer at the church in Plainsboro, New Jersey where the Beamer family worships. From the remembrances delivered lovingly by friends and family I learned a lot about the character of this national hero. He was an outstanding athlete who led and inspired his teammates. He was a fine businessman who stood out in a national company. He was an involved and loving father who was looking forward to the upcoming birth of his third child. Especially, I learned that he was a man of deep religious faith, a faith that allowed him to look past death to act so courageously on board Flight 93.

We all believe that band of passengers who fought the hijackers—Todd's father called them freedom fighters—saved hundreds, perhaps thousands of lives that would have been taken if that plane has made its fiery descent into the hijackers' intended target. It is worth noting that none of those people whose lives were saved know who they are. We will never know. But all Americans can be grateful and

can raise up the example of the heroes on that flight.

Their memory reminds us that this is not the last time America will need heroes. The survival of American ideals depends day in and day out on ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things, courageous things. The opportunity comes to every American to do courageous things. Most Americans will never have to face down an armed hijacker, but may have the opportunity in their neighborhoods or among their friends to face down bigotry, intolerance, or injustice. The memory of people like Todd Beamer helps us meet those challenges.

HONORING EXEL OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, on September 27, 2001, the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce will present Exel with the 2001 Industry of the Year Award at their Annual Salute to Industry. Although I will not be able to attend this ceremony, I want to congratulate all the employees at Exel, and in particular the Chief Executive Officer Bruce Edwards, for their excellence in operation and their ongoing commitment to our community.

The Industry of the Year Award, the highest honor presented by the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce, is awarded each year to an area business whose mission emphasizes a strong commitment to the community.

Exel is a world leader in supply chain services. Throughout their operations Exel has aggressively employed advanced technology, maintained an industry-focused approach, and expanded their global coverage to include 1,300 locations in 120 countries. Within the gulf coast region alone, Exel employs over 780 people, operate on three local campuses, and services such companies as Dow, ExxonMobil, and Compaq Computers.

Exel has clearly demonstrated their commitment to our community. The Exel Foundation, working in close partnership with the employees, contributes over \$1 million annually to local charities. At Exel, they value the importance of investing in our nation's young people and plan to introduce educational programs in those nations where Exel has a material presence.

In closing, I want to congratulate the employees of Exel for their exemplary model of community activism and wish them continued success in future endeavors.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Armenian Republic on the nation's Tenth Anniversary of Independence. Today, citizens of Armenia, as well as people of Armenian descent here in the United States